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STAP RESUME

The Science and Technology Advisory Panel (STAP) was formed by the Director of Central Intelligence in 1976. It serves the DCI as a source of independent advice and expertise on a variety of scientific, technical, and management issues. The membership includes renowned senior scientists, executives, and other leaders from industry, academe, and government.

The STAP meets quarterly in plenary session where, inter alia, formal briefings are presented, reports approved, and direct consultation with the DCI is effected. At other times small working groups or sub-panels are formed to respond to DCI tasking, address specific issues, and provide STAP participation in technical studies or other ongoing projects.

The STAP also responds to requests for assistance from any Deputy Director or senior line manager who believes a STAP member's expertise may contribute to resolving a difficult technical intelligence problem. STAP assistance may be in the form of an informal discussion, a written memorandum, or a formal study or report signed by the Chairman and forwarded to the DCI.

Principal functions of the STAP include:

- To insure the DCI and senior Intelligence Community managers are forewarned of significant advances in state-of-the-art technology and in new applications of existing technology.
- To identify and highlight the implications of current and future S&T developments for intelligence activity.
- To provide linkages and interactions between the intelligence community and the scientific and technical communities in industry, academe, and government, as appropriate.
- To provide a quality control mechanism; an outside source for objective evaluation of current and planned S&T-related intelligence activity.
- To review evidence on existing S&T intelligence "enigmas" and to introduce new thinking and suggest avenues for solving these unknowns.

Attachment C

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